

Application No.: 10/761874

Case No.: 59486US002

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 16, please replace the paragraph that starts on line 23 with the following amended paragraph:

The initial Coefficient of Retroreflected Luminance (R_L) of the pavement markings of the invention is at least 1000 millicandelas/m²/lux and thus at least about the same initial R_L as the same reflective element having an opacified ceramic core. In preferred embodiments, the pavement markings of the invention exhibit improved retroreflective properties. For such embodiments, the initial R_L may be at least 1400 millicandelas/m²/lux, at least 1600 millicandelas/m²/lux, at least 1800 millicandelas/m²/lux, and about 2000 millicandelas/m²/lux or greater. By employing retroreflective elements having a higher initial coefficient of retroreflected luminance, the coefficient of retroreflected luminance after wear testing is also higher, as the rate of loss of retroreflected luminance may be about the same. Accordingly, pavement markings employing elements having a higher initial R_L advantageously are more durable in that such marking exhibits a minimum R_L of at least 200 millicandelas/m²/lux for a longer duration of time, (i.e. 1 year, 2 years, 3 years, greater than 5 years, and intervals of time there between depending on the environmental conditions).

REMARKS

One of ordinary skill in the art would appreciate that the R_L values reported on p. 3 were misstated in candelas, rather than millicandelas. The Applicant submits that the requested amendment does not introduce new matter, particularly since none of the claims rely on the corrected paragraph.

Examination and consideration of the application as amended is requested.